accorded by His Highness the Maharaja to the revival of the Mysore Civil Service Examination scheme, under which the best local young men have a chance of competing for appointments in the State service. His Highness' Government have also recently strengthened the staff and improved the prospects of officials in some of the departments which either yield revenue or have felt themselves starved for some time.

55. Measures are under contemplation to arrange for a system of "efficiency audit" with a view to provide for more frequent and systematic inspections, to improve the office manuals and standing orders, and to ensure that the rules and orders in force are properly worked, or if not workable, promptly modified; that beneficent activities of every kind receive stimulus, that serious irregularities receive prompt attention; that, in short, waste of power and slackness of execution in the different departments of Government are controlled and minimised.

Efficiency must be maintained if the Government is to get value for the money which it is spending on its establishments. In a country like ours where the system of Government departments is maintained on the European model and the staff employed to work them have not fully adopted European business habits, an 'efficiency audit' is as much a necessity as a 'financial audit.'

6:—Efficiency of the People.

56. A few words here about measures for improving the capacity of the people may not be out of place.

It is not difficult nowadays to construct public works, railways, tramways or other works, because skilled agencies can be imported for the purpose. Foreign capital can be obtained if we are able to guarantee a fair return on the outlay. It is also easy to man the public service with the best talent available in India or, for that matter, of the world, because there is an abundance of such talent seeking employment. The help of outside agencies which, while benefiting themselves, are also likely to benefit us, should be welcomed. But large enterprises carried out entirely with outside help will not increase the capacity

of our people or raise the status of the country. And, unless in the fiscal and geographical area known as Mysore, the intelligence of the people, the natural resources and the available capital act and re-act on one another, and with cumulative effect, the country cannot be said to be making any permanent progress.

57. There are certain features in our present condition which necessitate anxious watchfulness on our part. The country has no doubt progressed within the past 30 years. People are better housed, better clothed and normally better fed, and the average standard of living has also risen; but the advance in these directions is due to the general progress of the Indian continent, as a whole, rather than to any organized activity or design on our part.

58. Only one person in every sixteen is able to read and write. The cultivators are not fully occupied even in normal seasons; in years of scarcity, for months at a time, they are left without occupation and without hope. Three-fourths of our population are dependent on agriculture and the great bulk of them live in villages without activities or aspirations outside their individual households. Our land-owners are small men, our business is conducted by small traders and artizans, each working singly for himself. The lessons of co-operation and organization have not permeated even the top strata of society.

59. The first Dewan since the Rendition, with the experiences of the famine of 1876-78 fresh before him, drew attention to a similar state of things then. In his address to this Assembly in 1881, Mr. Rangacharlu strongly urged the need for industries and industrial development, remarking "that no country can prosper unless its agricultural and manufacturing industries were equally fostered."

He was also of opinion that "when all the world around is making marvellous progress, the 200 millions of people in this country cannot much longer continue in their long sleep, simply following the traditions of their ancestors of 2,000 years ago and earning a miserable subsistence, ready to be crushed on the first occurrence of a famine or other calamity."

These words are as true to-day as they were when they were uttered thirty years ago and, unless a change is attempted, they will continue to be true thirty years hence.

60. "It is not Governments or forms of Government," remarked His Highness the Maharaja in a speech delivered so far back as 1903, "that have made the great

industrial nations but the spirit of the people and the energy of one and all working to a common end."

Following the lead of His Highness, we must develop the life and capacity of our people by encouraging in them self-help, power of initiative, courage to change, courage to create new things, spirit of co-operation and a capacity for organization.

61. Reasonable scope for the co-operative effort of the people in the State is provided for, however imperfectly it may be at present, by the organization known as the Economic Conference; and no one who has witnessed the educational activities, the roar of industry and the keen competition in trade, that is going on in the advanced countries of the West, can fail to sympathise and co-operate with the objects of that movement.

The organization is intended to stimulate co-operative enterprise in cities and towns and gradually among the rural population; but since nine-tenths of the people live in villages, it appears to me that a special effort is necessary to stimulate economic activity in rural areas.

62. The village forms a convenient unit for purposes of economic effort, for taking stock of progress at the beginning and end of a year. If each village shows a little improvement, from year to year, the collective result will be large. No village should be considered as maintaining a fair standard of enlightenment which does not keep 5 to 10 per cent of its population under education. No village should fail to subscribe to one or two well-conducted vernacular newspapers to keep itself informed of what is going on in the outside world. Every village family should be induced to keep in reserve grain or money sufficient to tide over a famine of two years. No cultivator's family should be without a subsidiary occupation to provide the members with the means of livelihood when agricultural operations are slack, or are stopped during scarcity or famine. Every village should show some public improvement or other as the result of the collective effort of its inhabitants at the end of each year.

The villages may be called upon to publish once a year a few essential statistics of their economic growth. And as the great bulk of our population live in villages, any effective organization to improve village efficiency cannot fail to make a potent addition to the life force of the people and the productive power of the country.